

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: GLOBAL CROSSING LTD. AND FRONTIER CORPORATION	DOCKET NO. SPU-99-16
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ORDER EXTENDING TIME PERIOD

(Issued June 9, 1999)

On May 7, 1999, Global Crossing Ltd. (Global Crossing) and Frontier Corporation (Frontier) (collectively, Applicants) filed a proposal for reorganization pursuant to IOWA CODE §§ 476.76 and 476.77 (1999). Pursuant to § 476.77(1), a proposal for reorganization is deemed to have been approved unless the Board disapproves the proposal within 90 days of filing. For good cause shown, the Board may extend the deadline for acting on an application for an additional period of up to 90 days.

On May 26, 1999, the Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice (Consumer Advocate) filed a motion to extend the time period by an additional 90 days. Consumer Advocate argued that an extension is required by the May 17, 1999, announcement of a merger between Global Crossing and U S WEST Communications, Inc. (U S West). As a result of that announcement, Consumer Advocate believes many of the Applicants' allegations in their May 7, 1999, application may no longer be correct.

On June 1, 1999, Consumer Advocate filed a supplement to its motion to extend the available time for Board review, stating the Applicants had failed to provide adequate responses to certain Consumer Advocate data requests, causing Consumer Advocate to file a motion to compel. Consumer Advocate argues it cannot prepare its testimony without these responses. That testimony (absent any extension) would be due on or before June 16, 1999, pursuant to IOWA ADMIN. CODE 199-32.9(1) (1999). Accordingly, Consumer Advocate believes an extension is now even more appropriate.

The Applicants have not yet responded to Consumer Advocate's motion to extend or the supplement to that motion. However, the Board finds that Consumer Advocate has shown good cause for extending the 90 days by an additional 90 days in order to permit an adequate review of the proposal for reorganization, particularly as it may be affected by the announced merger with U S West. Moreover, some time may be required to resolve the pending discovery questions. This factor also weighs in favor of extending the deadline for Board action on the proposal for reorganization.

This extension does not affect the statutory requirement that the Board must issue a notice of hearing no later than 50 days after the application was filed. Thus, the Board must issue a notice of hearing no later than June 28, 1999, if this matter is to be set for hearing. If the Board issues a notice of hearing, the Board will establish a procedural schedule as a part of the notice.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

The "Motion For Extension Of Ninety Day Time Period For An Additional Ninety Days" filed by the Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice on May 26, 1999, is granted.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Allan T. Thoms

/s/ Susan J. Frye

ATTEST:

/s/ Raymond K. Vawter, Jr.
Executive Secretary

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 9th day of June, 1999.